

probably not be able to be enacted into law at this session. The reason for this amendment is that it will provide that...the ability to provide for the state to make available a low-level radioactive waste policy act. If we do not do this, there is a very good chance that within a very brief period of time Nebraska will not have complied with the federal mandate relative to this provision. If we do not do that, then there is a chance, of course, that Nebraska could become a dumping ground for a wide variety of this kind of material. I want to point out that this material is usually considered to be medical equipment, gloves, tools, et cetera, that are used in the hospitals, other institutions, and there is no risk involved. But we do have to have this kind of a proposal, and it must be adopted during this legislative session. I would like to ask that the amendment be adopted. I'll try and answer any questions. I think Senator Rod Johnson might want to comment, or perhaps Senator Chizek also because it is his bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, did you have...Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I think Senator Schmit has done a very fine job of explaining the reasoning behind bringing the bill back. I want to thank Senator Chizek for allowing us to use LB 491 as a vehicle in which to basically take the contents of LB 1211 and insert those into this bill because Nebraska is a member of the central interstate low level radioactive waste compact, which includes the states of Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. The purpose of this compact is to manage low level radioactive waste within our region, and possibly locate a site within one of those states for the purposes of managing this waste. It is not to say that Nebraska will become that site, it is simply to, as Senator Schmit indicated, comply with the federal government because they did ratify this compact in December of 1985. So the bill is necessary to be passed this year, to allow DEC to continue to work with the compact in getting some sort of a low level radio (sic) waste facility, disposal facility within this central region of the United States. They have not determined where that facility will be located yet. It could, and then again it could not be in Nebraska. It just depends on the findings that this compact, or the individuals included in this compact will come up with. I believe that Director Dennis Gramms indicated that Nebraska